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[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/mcmanus/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/mcmanus/)

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## **Sen. McManus: Lake County residents don't want to see their largest employer eliminated with a stroke of governor's pen**

**LANSING** – State Sen. Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, issued the following statement on Thursday regarding the Department of Corrections budget and the Michigan Youth Correctional Facility in Baldwin:

“From the governor’s first announcement of her intention to close the Baldwin facility, the working families from Lake County have come before us to say they cannot afford to lose 220 good-paying jobs. They cannot afford to lose more than 25 percent of their local property tax revenue. And they will not be able to attract another business capable of filling the economic hole that will be created if the youth prison closes.

“You would think a governor whose slogan has been “Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow” would bend over backwards to protect these jobs, but that is not the case. Our voices have fallen on this administration’s deaf ears.”

“Then something happened. The name of the prison on the chopping block changed. Now, the good people from the U.P. have been here making the same arguments Lake County folks have been making for months. Did the governor tell them the state’s budget crisis trumped their local concerns? No. She blamed Republicans for playing politics with the budget.”

“There are good people on both sides of this issue, but when we are talking about the livelihoods of hundreds of people and the future of entire communities, surely we can come together in a bipartisan manner and balance the budget without sending more families to the unemployment line. We all want our communities to prosper, but we cannot do that by picking winners and losers.”

Broadcast-quality audio of McManus’ full statement can be downloaded from the Senate Majority Multimedia Link at:

<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire/mcmanus/index.htm>.

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